



Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan (ARP Act)

LEA Information

1. LEA Name (one LEA per form)*

Choice Academies Inc.

2. Entity ID Number*

90138

3. CTDS Number*

078549000

4. Plan's Primary Contact Name*

Audra Wilson Smith, CEO, Choice Academies Inc.

5. Plan's Primary Contact Email Address*

awsmith@choiceacademies.org

6. Plan's Primary Contact Phone Number*

602-938-5517

Please submit your Safe Return to In-Person Learning Plan every six months from your prior submission date.

Revision Timeline: May 2023-September 2023

7. Since your last submission date, when did your LEA last review and/or revise your plan? Please provide the updated mm/dd/yyyy of your review/revision. This date should be updated from your last submission. *

06/28/2023

All LEAs receiving ESSER III funds must make publicly available on their website, a plan for the Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services. Please list the link where the plan/template is posted on the LEA's website.

8. Insert the link below with directions on how to find your LEA's Safe Return to In-Person plan located on your LEA website (do not link directly to the PDF). The plan must be on the ADE template that will be downloaded from EMAC after completing your responses.*

<https://atachoice.org/ade-safe-return-to-in-person-instruction-plan/>

How the LEA will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff and the extent to which it has adopted policies, and a description of any such policies, on each of the following safety recommendations established by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

9. Has the LEA adopted a Governing Board policy on universal and correct wearing of masks?*

No

10. Has the LEA adopted a Governing Board policy on modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)?*

Yes

11. Please describe the LEA's Governing Board policy on modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding).*

No longer practicing extra spacing. Students continue to move about the day in cohorts. Students bring their own art supplies to art to minimize community use of supplies. Tech labs keyboards are cleaned after every class session. No longer using community pens, pencils, crayons etc within the classrooms.

12. Has the LEA adopted a Governing Board policy on handwashing and respiratory etiquette?*

Yes

13. Please describe the LEA's Governing Board policy on handwashing and respiratory etiquette.*

Procedures of proper hand washing listed on all walls. Handwashing is practiced by all students after recess, before and after lunch. Masks are permitted to be worn by staff and students by choice.

14. Has the LEA adopted a Governing Board policy on cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation?*

Yes

15. Please describe the LEA's Governing Board policy on cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation.*

Air filters have been upgraded to Merv 13. Contracted cleaners clean the facilities nightly. Teachers are provided cleaning wipes to wipe down surfaces before leaving for the day including desks, chairs and door handles.

16. Has the LEA adopted a Governing Board policy on contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments?*

Yes

17. Please describe the LEA's Governing Board policy on contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments.*

Anytime the school is notified of a positive covid 19 case of a student or employee, the classroom families and teachers are informed . The individual (staff or student) should isolate for five days from the date of test notification

18. Has the LEA adopted a Governing Board policy on diagnostic and screening testing?*

No

19. Has the LEA adopted a Governing Board policy on efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities?*

No

20. Has the LEA adopted a Governing Board policy on appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies?*

Yes

21. Please describe the LEA's Governing Board policy on appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies.*

A registered nurse is employed full time for the schools in addition to a Sped Coordinator, teachers and paraprofessionals to assist our students with disabilities. Information related to the students and their health needs and keeping themselves informed of any changes to the health and safety policies related to Covid 19.

22. Has the LEA adopted a Governing Board policy on coordination with State and local health officials?*

*

Yes

23. Please describe the LEA's Governing Board policy on coordination with State and local health officials.*

Anytime there is a positive notification of a student or employee, a report is faxed to Maricopa County Dept of Health asap.

Continuity of Services

Including but not limited to services to address students' academic needs and students' and staff social, emotional, mental health, and other needs, which may include student health and food services.

24. How will the LEA ensure Continuity of Services?*

Briefly describe an overview of the continuity of services and in the following questions you will provide more detailed information.

In conjunction with administration, teachers, support staff and parent partnership the LEA will work to have meetings with the stakeholders (PTO, biweekly staff meetings, daily end of the day recoup meetings with administration) to communicate the needs of the students and the employees to support the overall organization. Communication of processes and procedures that are working and not working to adapt to the many changes works to keep everyone in tune and involved. We all must work together to support the mission of the schools while maintaining the safety of everyone. The safety not only includes physical/logistic safety but also the mental and emotional safety of everyone. We are constantly facing the challenge to adapt to what is occurring within the learning environment, providing resources to support one another and open communication are key to continuing to keep our schools open in person with staff that believe they are supported by parents and administration and parents who trust the administration and staff have the best interest of their children at heart.

25. How will the LEA ensure continuity of services for students' academic needs?*

All schools have resumed in person learning for both schools. Administration, staff and teachers are all present to provide instruction to all enrolled students. The curriculum continues to be taught from kindergarten through 12th grade.

26. How will the LEA ensure continuity of services for students' social, emotional, and mental health needs?*

Social, emotional and mental needs are addressed in a variety of ways throughout the day with students interacting with staff and students. Clubs & sports provide extra curricular activities that further encourage a sense of community, team efforts, work on problem solving, working collaboratively within clubs. Recess and lunch times provides opportunity to address conflicts and work and play with one another. Interventions within the classrooms provide smaller groups that give opportunity to discuss and address different struggles and challenges in a safe environment. Specials (art, technology, P.E. and music) are valued time for students to express themselves to balance between instructional time while providing time and alternative ways to socialize and discovery of other cultures through music and art. Partnerships with parents through the parent groups provide space to discuss designed to allow parents and staff to intermingle, dialogue and share ideas and concerns. Staff and parents work together to provide community events to invites members of the community to come together to socialize and have students interact after school. Such community events are important since our school is located in a business district and not within a housing community.

27. How will the LEA ensure continuity of services for students' other needs?*

This may include student health and food services.

Food service continues to be provided as a self operative with the assistance of USDA Nutritional Programs. Nutritional meals are offered to both students and staff. Staff wear gloves and maintain clean areas. School is inspected twice per year by county health department.

28. How will the LEA ensure continuity of services for staff's social, emotional, and mental health needs?*

Staff engage in quarterly lunch appreciation provided by parent groups. Biweekly meetings are conducted by the principal to assist teachers in maintaining balance with the workload, changes of Covid 19 protocols and personal challenges. HR works with administration to provide space for staff to share concerns privately and provide possible services through the health insurance provider. Information is provided to staff any changes made by the city, state, federal or governing board related to the operations of the school.

29. How will the LEA ensure continuity of services for staff's other needs?*

none

The LEA must regularly, but no less frequently than every six months (taking into consideration the timing of significant changes to CDC guidance on reopening schools), review and, as appropriate, revise its plan for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services through September 30, 2023

30. Describe the process used to seek public input, and how that input was taken into account in the revision of the plan.*

Public governing board meeting to approve revisions and budget, posted and made available for public view and input.

After completing all responses in EMAC, save your information. Then, use the red download button to create a copy of your completed form to be uploaded to your LEA website. Once your form is uploaded to your LEA website, log back into EMAC to click the blue submit button and submit your form to be reviewed by your specialist. Your EMAC submission will not be approved unless this updated form is on your LEA website.

31. Did you upload the completed EMAC form to your LEA website?*

Yes